

result in a starch having sufficient surface charge to improve retention of cooked starch significantly beyond that of raw unmodified starch.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 26, as follows:

In one aspect, the present invention provides a modified polysaccharide having enhanced surface charge. The polysaccharide of the invention is a polysaccharide that has been modified to include a cationic polymer. The modified starch formed in accordance with the present invention has a surface charge from about +5 to about +20 mV. The modified polysaccharide can be advantageously incorporated into a papermaking furnish with enhanced retention.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 8, as follows:

Treatment with APAM had an insignificant effect on the appearance of fibers treated with either the cationic starch or PQA-modified starch.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 13, as follows:

In this example, the measurement of the surface charge of representative starch particles having enhanced surface charge are described. The surface charge was determined by zeta potential measurement.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 20, as follows:

Britt Jar Conditions. A Britt Jar having a 100 mesh conical mesh screen was used in the retention determination. The pulp was added into a tared Britt Jar with the stopper closed and mixed with the starch at various speeds. After time had elapsed for sampling, the stopper was opened and the filtrate was collected in a tared aluminum pan (around 100 mL). The pan was immediately weighed on the same four-place balance that was used for the tare. The pan was put into a 105°C oven until the following day. The dried sample was placed into a desiccator before reweighing the pan. The consistency of the unretained slurry was calculated from Equation 1.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 21, as follows: